

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2755
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2001
UTILISATION OF COMMERCIAL TIME
SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Doordarshan failed to raise a claim of Rs. 8.93 crores on account of short accountal of commercial time utilized and non-billing of uplinking and space segment charges from airtime selling agencies engaged in Bangladesh Independence Cup 1998 and French Open Tennis Tournament, 1997;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken against the authorities responsible therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken to recover the short claim?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) & (b) : The C&AG in its report for the year ended 31st March, 2000 – No. 2 of 2001 have inter- alia observed that Doordarshan failed to raise a claim of Rs. 8.93 crore from the marketing agencies in respect of Bangladesh Independence Cup 1998 and in respect of French Open Tennis Tournament 1997. Prasar Bharati has disputed this amount and has informed that short recovery is to the tune of Rs. 6.12 crore. Further, the matter relating to French Open Tennis Tournament 1997 is under CBI investigation.

(c): Prasar Bharati has intimated that legal action against the marketing company for recovery of the said dues has been initiated.